

MINUTES
JOINT MEETING OF THE
CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH
CITY COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMISSION
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
AND
TIDELANDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MAY 11, 2016

Tijuana Estuary Visitors Center
301 Caspian Way, Imperial Beach, CA 91932

CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR

Mayor Dedina called the Special Workshop Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK

City Council/Planning Commission:

Councilmembers Present: Patton (arrived at 6:07 p.m.), Bragg (arrived at 6:05 p.m.), Bilbray

Mayor Present: Dedina

Mayor Pro Tem Present: Spriggs

Design Review Board:

Boardmembers present: Smith, Voronchihin

Boardmembers absent: Bowman, Pamintuan

Board Chair present: Nakawatase

Tidelands Advisory Committee:

Committee Members present: Archer, Ellis, Hill, Robertson

Committee Members absent: None

Committee Chair present: Doyle

WORKSHOP

Mayor Dedina declared the meeting open and welcomed members of the City Council, Tidelands Advisory Committee, Design Review Board, staff and public.

Dr. David Revell, Coastal Scientist with Revell Coastal gave a PowerPoint presentation. He gave a brief introduction and background on the Imperial Beach Sea Level Rise Study, coastal hazards, vulnerability assessment, adaptation strategies and future work plans.

Danielle Boudreau gave a PowerPoint presentation on Coastal Flooding and Sea Level Rise Planning in the San Diego Region.

Public Speakers:

Leon Benham expressed concern about a short timeline for making recommendations and suggested consideration of other options such as a breakwater like the one off the coast of Santa Monica. He also suggested use of the sand and cobble from the Tijuana River and other dredging projects from throughout the region.

Michel Dedina stated there are many cities throughout the world facing similar problems as Imperial Beach and suggested an analysis of their solutions. He also suggested the United Nations as another source for information.

Brian Bilbray spoke about the importance of having the fortitude and commitment of executing projects such as sand replenishment while understanding there will be opposition and complaints. He noted that sea level rise is a symptom and that air emissions causing global warming is the problem. He questioned how the City will implement AB 32 to address climate change and he stressed the need to think globally yet act locally.

Joshua Hill stated there isn't enough sand on the beach and questioned if the City reached out to other agencies to release the sediment from the dams.

Joe Ellis responded sediment would need to be dredged from behind dams and trucked to the beach which is expensive. He also stated there are habitat issues to consider.

Leon Benham added there is too much volume of sand and not enough flow of water to move the sand.

Will Creagan questioned the acceleration of the curve on the Increasing Vulnerabilities and Costs chart.

Dr. Revel stated that previously the trend is was linear and is now an exponential curve due to the acceleration of sea level rise. He also explained that sea level rise is a result of ice melt and expansion of water as a result of warmer water. He also briefly commented on the effects of emissions.

In response to Jose Rodriguez's question, Dr. Revel explained the different factors associated with deposited sand staying on the beach such as sand grain size, grain coarseness and drift.

Melanie Chavez stated her priority is helping the environment.

In response to Mary Doyle's question, Dr. Revel explained how tectonic plates effect sea level rise.

City Council Discussion:

Councilmember Bilbray commented on the Army Corp. groin projects and the reason they were not completed.

Councilmember Bragg expressed concern about a short timeline and she encouraged participation of regional partners.

Councilmember Patton agreed with Michel Dedina's suggestion to find out what is working in other cities.

Mayor Pro Tem Spriggs spoke about the cutting edge efforts Imperial Beach is taking to address sea level rise. He commented that although this study's primary focus is ocean related, there is a need to do a comprehensive study that includes the other water bodies. He further suggested a comprehensive amendment to the Local Coastal Plan and to have it considered one time by the California Coastal Commission. He also spoke about other coastal states needing to start planning for adaptation, that the country as a whole will realize the importance of this issue, and that world leadership will need to address mitigation of the causes (as mentioned by Brian Bilbray).

Mayor Dedina thanked everyone for their comments and feedback. He also expressed concern about flooding at the south end of 5th Street and the north end of 7th Street.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Dedina adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

/s/

Serge Dedina
Mayor

/s/

Shirley Nakawatase
Design Review Board Chair

/s/

Mary Doyle
Tidelands Advisory Chair

/s/

Jacqueline M. Hald, MMC
City Clerk